

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed August 17, 2007 rejected claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grossman et al. (hereinafter Grossman) (U.S. PG Pub No. 2004/0119760) in view of Hertzog et al. (hereinafter Hertzog) (U.S. PG Pub No. 2003/0069874). Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 10 and 18 have been amended. No new matter has been added. The Applicants respectfully present the following for consideration.

Claim Rejections

With regard to Claim 1, the Office Action states that Grossman teaches "accessing contacts from the device" as computer executable instructions for operably displaying a user interface at the display device and for responding to user input entered at the user interface. The remote store interface module 240 includes sufficient computer executable instructions for searching and processing contact information stored at remote devices, such as remote device 220. Remote device 220 may be a remote computer, server containing contact information (Grossman Paragraph 0040). "wherein accessing contacts from the device includes accessing a contacts database and a call log" as the remote store interface module 240 includes sufficient computer executable instructions for searching and processing contact information stored at remote devices, such as remote device 220. Remote device 220 may be a remote computer, server containing contact information (Grossman Paragraph 0040). The schema module 250 is useful for enabling contact information from remote stores to be organized according to a single unifying schema. The schema module 250 may also be used to map and identify contact information stored in local stores, such as storage media 270 (Grossman Paragraph 0041). The

present embodiment illustrates three contact information directories, 280a, 280b, and 280c. For example, directory 280a may correspond to an email application and directory 280b may correspond to a telephony application. It will be appreciated, however, that the invention is not limited to use with any particular number of contact information directories or applications to which they correspond (Grossman Paragraph 0043, 0004 and 0006). Contacts are being accessed from the device 270, which includes three contact information directories, 280a, 280b, and 280c. Directory 280a/contact database may correspond to an email application and directory 280b/contact database with calls may correspond to a telephony application.” Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the invention.

As amended, Claim 1 recites in part “accessing each of the contacts within at least three contact lists from the device; wherein accessing contacts from the device includes accessing a contacts database and a call log; wherein the contact lists are automatically accessed without obtaining a user input; concatenating each of the contacts from each of the accessed contact lists to create a single concatenated list of contacts; searching the concatenated list for information within each of the accessed contacts to locate relevant contacts that include the search input, wherein the information that may be searched includes any information contained within the contact.” Among other differences, the cited art does not each creating a concatenated list of contacts to search from all of the different contact lists that are accessed.

Grossman discusses accessing different contacts databases but does not teach concatenating all of the contacts from the lists into a single concatenated list. Paragraph 50 states that “When one of the listed directories is selected, the interface 400 obtains and displays

the contact information from the selected directory in the primary display frame 410.”

Grossman, however, does not teach “concatenating each of the contacts from each of the accessed contact lists to create a single concatenated list of contacts.” Instead, Grossman searches the one or more contact directories to find a contact. Paragraph 54 of Grossman recites that “by typing the name “Jane,” one or more of the contact information directories is searched for contact information corresponding with the name “Jane.”” In other words, a single concatenated list of contacts is not created. Claim 1 also teaches “searching the concatenated list” for the contacts. As discussed, Grossman teaches searching one or more of the contact information directories and does not search a single concatenated list. Claim 1 also includes other recitations that are not taught by the cited art. Since the cited references do not teach creating a concatenated list of contacts to search, Claim 1 is proposed to be allowable. Claims depending from Claim 1 are proposed to be allowable as they depend on a valid base claim. Independent Claims 10 and 18 have been similarly amended, albeit differently.

As amended, Claim 10 recites in part “accessing contacts from at least two different sources on the device; wherein the different sources include a contacts database and a speed dial database; wherein the different sources are automatically selected and accessed without obtaining a user input.” In contrast, the cited references do not teach automatically selecting the different sources that include the contact information without user input. Referring to figure 4 (432a, 432b, 432c) and paragraph 50 of Grossman it can be seen that the directories to be searched are selected by a user. Since the cited references do not teach automatically selecting the databases, Claim 10 is proposed to be allowable. Claims depending from Claim 10 are proposed to be allowable as they depend on a valid base claim.

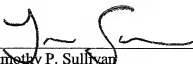
As amended, Claim 18 recites in part “accessing the contacts from the data store; wherein accessing the contacts include accessing a plurality of contact lists; creating a concatenated list of contacts by concatenating the contacts that are stored within the plurality of contact lists; searching the concatenated list of contacts for information within each of the accessed contacts to locate relevant contacts that include the search input, wherein a majority of information within each of the accessed contacts may be searched.” Claim 18 is proposed to be allowable for at least the reasons presented above. Claims depending from Claim 18 are proposed to be allowable as they depend on a valid base claim.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.



Timothy P. Sullivan
Registration No. 47,981
Direct Dial: 206.342.6254

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
206.342.6200

